

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 15390 261136Z

15

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02

CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 L-02 H-02 DODE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 GSA-02

AGR-10 /111 W

----- 036504

R 260731Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5828

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

UNCLAS JAKARTA 15390

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, PINS, MY, ID, TH, ASEAN

SUBJ: MUSA HITAM SEEKS SUPPORT IN INDONESIA FOR
MALAYSIA'S RUBBER-STABILIZATION PROGRAM

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 5951

1. MALAYSIAN MINISTER OF PRIMARY COMMODITIES
DATUK MUSA HITAM CONCLUDED HIS FOUR-DAY RUBBER PARLAY
IN JAKARTA AND PROCEEDED TO BANGKOK 20 DECEMBER FOR
TALKS WITH THAI OFFICIALS. ACCORDING TO PRESS
REPORTS, MUSA MET WITH MINISTER OF STATE/PLANNING
CHIEF WIDJOJO, WITH INDONESIAN MINISTERS TRADE,
AGRICULTURE, RESEARCH, MANPOWER, AND COMMUNICATIONS,
AND WITH VICE PRESIDENT SRI SULTAN HAMENGKO BUWONO.
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HIS EFFORTS DIRECTED TOWARD EXPLAINING MALYSIA'S

SHORT-TERM PROGRAM TO SHORE UP PRICES AND LONGER-TERM STRATEGY OF INCREASING NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCTION AND STABILIZING PRICE FOR BENEFIT BOTH PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS. HE OFFERED INDONESIA MALAYSIAN TECHNICAL HELP IN RUBBER MARKETING. ONE OBJECTIVE MORE CONCRETE THAN THE REST EVIDENTLY TO DEVELOP SUPPORT FOR BUFFER STOCK SCHEME INVOLVING MALAYSIA, INDONESIA, AND THAILAND, POSSIBLY TO BE HUNG ON AN ASEAN PEG.

2. MUSA EXPRESSED SATISFACTION TO NEWSMEN WITH RESULTS OF TALKS IN INDONESIA. PRINCIPAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF NOTE WAS THAT INDONESIANS HAD FLOATED PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING IN JANUARY OF "EXPERTS" FROM RUBBER-PRODUCING COUNTRIES TO EXAMINE POSSIBILITY OF A BUFFER-STOCK SCHEME. INDONESIAN ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE TOLD MUSA THEIR RUBBER PRODUCTION DECLINED BY NEARLY 19 PER CENT LAST QUARTER, EXHIBITING USUAL SENSITIVITY TO PRICES, AND THAT CHECK PRICE SYSTEM (REQUIRING EXPORTER TO SURRENDER FOREIGN EXCHANGE IN PREDETERMINED AMOUNT RELATED TO EXPORT VOLUME) WOULD BE RETAINED AS MEANS OF STRENGTHENING THIS PATTERN.
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